

Message Text

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61

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TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 068413

EXCON

EO 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: ESTC, COCOM, BE

SUBJ: BELGIAN CANDIDACY FOR COCOM CHAIRMANSHIP

REFS: OECD PARIS 10059

1. GOB HAS PROPOSED THE NAME OF ITS PRESENT AMBASSADOR TO ETHIOPIA AS A CANDIDATE FOR THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE AT PARIS (COCOM). COCOM MAINTAINS LISTS OF ADVANCED INDUSTRIAL, MILITARY, AND NUCLEAR GOODS AND TECHNOLOGY WHICH, IF FREELY EXPORTED COULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE STRATEGIC POWER OF THE WARSAW PACT AND ASIAN COMMUNIST COUNTRIES. THE LISTS ARE UPDATED PERIODICALLY AND EXPORTS OF LISTED GOODS REQUIRE THE UNANIMOUS APPROVAL OF THE PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES (NATO AND JAPAN). THE COCOM CHAIRMAN MANAGES A SECRETARIAT OF APPROXIMATELY TEN PERSONS
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OF DIFFERENT EUROPEAN NATIONALITIES AND IS RESPONSIBLE FOR CONDUCTING WEEKLY MEETINGS AT WHICH HE MUST IMPARTIALLY AND OBJECTIVELY INTERPRET PROCEDURES, RULES, AND TECHNICAL DEFINITIONS AND ARBITRATE DISAGREEMENTS WHICH OCCASIONALLY ARISE CONCERNING THE CASES BROUGHT BEFORE THE COMMITTEE. THE ACTIVITY AND SUBJECT MATTER WITH WHICH HE MUST DEAL IS CLASSIFIED, AND THE WORKLOAD IS SUCH THAT HE MUST BE ABLE QUICKLY TO DIGEST THE FACTS CONNECTED WITH AN INCREASINGLY LARGE NUMBER OF EXCEPTIONAL PROPOSALS TO EXPORT HIGH TECHNOLOGY PRODUCTS TO COMMUNIST AREAS. HE

MUST BE BILINGUAL IN ENGLISH AND FRENCH.

2. DEPARTMENT HAS ALREADY RECEIVED THE CIRRICULUM VITAE OF AMBASSADOR DE LIEDERKERKE UP TO THE TIME OF HIS PRESENT ASSIGNMENT, BUT WOULD BE INTERESTED IN RECEIVING COMMENTS BASED ON ANY PERSONAL ASSOCIATIONS OR CONTACTS. YOUR ASSESSMENT OF PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS OR ATTITUDES (PARTICULARLY TOWARD THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE CONTROL PROGRAM) BEARING ON HIS ABILITY TO PERFORM COOLLY AND IMPARTIALLY AS AN INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVANT IN GROUP INCLUDING HIS OWN COUNTRY AND THE US AMONG OTHERS WOULD BE PARTICULARLY USEFUL. ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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